



## Exempt Action Final Regulation Agency Background Document

<b>Agency name</b>	Virginia Office for Protection and Advocacy
<b>Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation</b>	22VAC27-10
<b>Regulation title</b>	Public Participation Guidelines
<b>Action title</b>	Promulgate new public participation guidelines
<b>Final agency action date</b>	September 23, 2008
<b>Document preparation date</b>	November 4, 2008

When a regulatory action is exempt from executive branch review pursuant to § 2.2-4002 or § 2.2-4006 of the Virginia Administrative Process Act (APA), the agency is encouraged to provide information to the public on the Regulatory Town Hall using this form.

Note: While posting this form on the Town Hall is optional, the agency must comply with requirements of the Virginia Register Act, the *Virginia Register Form, Style, and Procedure Manual*, and Executive Orders 36 (06) and 58 (99).

### Summary

*Please provide a brief summary of all regulatory changes, including the rationale behind such changes. Alert the reader to all substantive matters or changes. If applicable, generally describe the existing regulation.*

Public Participation Guidelines (PPGs) exist to promote public involvement in the development, amendment, or repeal of an agency's regulations. Chapter 321 of the 2008 Acts of Assembly (effective July 1, 2008) mandates that by December 1, 2008, agencies with rulemaking authority either adopt the model PPGs issued by the Department of Planning and Budget (DPB), or, if the agency needs to make significant changes to the model PPGs, to promulgate new PPGs as a fast-track regulatory action.

The Virginia Office for Protection and Advocacy Governing Board has chosen to modify and adopt the model PPG regulations issued by DPB as an exempt action. Modifications of the model PPGs include substituting the "Board" for the "Governor" as VOPA is an independent state agency and not an entity within the Executive Branch. VOPA sees this to be non-controversial as we are using the model guidelines developed by DPB and only making modifications that reflect the independent status and authority of the Office and its Board as provided in the Virginia Code.

### Statement of final agency action

*Please provide a statement of the final action taken by the agency including (1) the date the action was taken, (2) the name of the agency taking the action, and (3) the title of the regulation.*

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On September 23, 2008 the Virginia Office for Protection and Advocacy Board took action to modify the model PPG regulations and adopt them as Public Participation Guidelines.

### Family impact

*Assess the impact of this regulatory action on the institution of the family and family stability.*

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These public participation guidelines should have no impact on the institution of the family or family stability.